

11-year-old house help

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Rima Begum, the girl's mother, said the incident happened at the house at Siddheswari on Friday morning, but she was informed about it hours later in the evening.
"Joba had requested me to take her away from the house last month. I had promised her to do that after getting my next month's salary," an emotional Rima, who works as a cleaner at Mohakhali, told The Daily Star over the phone.
With 95 percent burns, Joba breathed her last at the burn unit of

Dhaka Medical College Hospital around 8:00am yesterday, said Partha Sankar Paul, resident surgeon at the unit.
Following an autopsy, her body was handed over to her mother, said police. Later, it was taken to Sonatola upazila of Bogra for burial.
Earlier, quoting the girl, Sharif Hossain, sub-inspector of Ramna Police Station, said she tried to set herself on fire inside the kitchen of her employer's house. He, however, could not say why she would do that.
The police official said he came to

know from the employer that the girl was mentally instable - a claim rejected by Joba's mother, who also accused the employer's family of repeatedly beating her daughter.
While groaning in excruciating pain at the hospital, Joba could only say that Synthiya and Poly, members of the family, beat her up.
Mashiure Rahman, officer-in-charge of Ramna Police Station, said no case was filed over the incident till last evening.
Police were investigating to find out who had set the girl on fire, he added.

'El Chapo' captured

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"Mission accomplished: We have him," President Enrique Pena Nieto said on his Twitter account. "I want to inform all Mexicans that Joaquin Guzman Loera has been arrested."
For Pena Nieto, the capture of a trafficker who twice slipped out of Mexican prisons is a sorely-needed victory after his presidency was tarnished by graft and human rights scandals and the shame of the kingpin's flight from the maximum security Altiplano prison in July.
It also provides relief to US-Mexico relations, strained by suspicion of high-level collusion given the apparent ease with which Guzman gave Mexican authorities the slip after the United States requested his extradition.
Guzman now faces possible extradition to face trial in the United States. That process could take months, although US Republican party presidential hopeful Marco Rubio was among those calling for Washington to immediately pursue extradition.
Once featured in the Forbes list of billionaires, Guzman led a cartel that has smuggled billions of dollars worth of cocaine, heroin, marijuana and methamphetamines into the United

States and fought vicious turf wars with other Mexican gangs.
He was caught early on Friday after Mexican marines raided his safe house, killing five and capturing six of Guzman's henchmen. They pursued the drug lord through the northern city's drains and caught him after a car chase through the outskirts, Attorney General Arely Gomez said.
He was flown to Mexico City and later transferred in a naval helicopter back to the Altiplano.
Guzman, whose nickname means "Shorty", first escaped prison in 2001 by bribing prison officials, and went on to dominate the world of Mexican drug trafficking.
He was recaptured by Pena Nieto's government in 2014 but escaped in July by capitalizing on the drug-tunneling skills his cartel honed on the US border. A mile-long tunnel equipped with electric lights, rails and a motorbike came out directly into the shower of his prison cell and he simply slipped away.
The escape heaped embarrassment on Pena Nieto, who had resisted a US request to extradite Guzman and had said previously that an escape would be "unforgivable."
Dozens of people were arrested over the jailbreak, though details of who

Guzman bribed and how his accomplices knew exactly where to dig into the prison remain scarce.
His recapture on Friday involved Mexican marines, the US Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) and US Marshals, a senior Mexican police source and a US source said.
STORM DRAINS
After stopping his getaway car, the Marines took Guzman and waited for reinforcements at Hotel Doux, a love motel on the outskirts of town that rents out rooms by the hour.
One photograph widely circulated on social media, but that could not be independently verified by Reuters, appeared to show Guzman sitting handcuffed on a hotel bed, in a room that resembled those shown on the Hotel Doux website.
He was wearing a filthy vest and a poster of a scantily clad woman was pinned on the wall behind him.
Another photo appeared to show Guzman without handcuffs and wearing the same vest in the back of a vehicle next to one of his top assassins.
US officials and the DEA, which has had a bumpy relationship with its Mexican counterparts since traffickers tortured a US agent to death in 1985, took no credit and congratulated Mexico on the capture.

Construction starts next month

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an hour, the minister said at the discussion organised by the English daily and BSRM.
Sound controlling measures will be taken at key points like parliament, Dhaka University and National Museum, he said, adding that the route had been decided upon considering all the aspects.
Referring to the recent human chain by DU students protesting the route as it goes through the campus, he said, "We met Dhaka University authorities again and again and they approved the route."
The road alignment was not a unilateral decision, Obaidul said, adding that metro rail was now a national priority, not work of an individual.
He sought media support to proceed with the project.
"If the construction does not get off

the ground, it [metro rail] will never see the light."
Projects have also been taken up to construct two other proposed routes -- MRT Line 1 and 5 -- that will be elevated and go underground at places, Obaidul said.
According to the draft of Revised Strategic Transport Plan, MRT Line-1 will connect Dhaka airport to Kamalapur, which will later be extended from the airport to Gazipur and Kamalapur to Keraniganj Jhilmil Residential Area.
MRT Line 5 will go in circle from Bhulta on Dhaka-Sylhet highway to Hatirjheel link road via Bhatara, Natun Bazar, Madani Road, Kamal Ataturk Avenue, Mirpur 10, Gabtoli Bus Terminal, Mirpur Road, Dhanmondi and Bashundhara City.
Referring to the nagging traffic jam in Dhaka, Quader said footpaths

would have to be reclaimed and roads freed from grabbers.
Besides, tough decision has to be made regarding unauthorised rickshaws so that traffic congestion remains at a tolerable level in the capital, the minister said.
The construction of Dhaka Elevated Expressway -- from Uttara to Kutubkhali -- has also begun after remaining stuck for long, he added.
The construction of Dhaka-Mymensingh and Dhaka-Chittagong four-lane projects almost completed, the road transport minister said, adding that the prime minister would inaugurate both the four-lane roads at the end of May this year.
About the Kamaphuli tunnel, he said the president or the prime minister of China would come to Bangladesh and unveil the foundation stone of the much-dreamt project.

Cancel move by Jan 25

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was established.
Several politicians and rights activists from Dhaka joined the rally to express their solidarity with protesters.
Tea garden workers' family members, who do not have any jobs, depend on growing crops, especially rice, on the arable land within the estates.
Government officials, however, are in the final phase of acquiring arable land at several tea estates including Chandpur and Ramganga estates, according to sources.
The government has decided to set up five SEZs in the country, including one in Habiganj, to attract both foreign and domestic investors.
For 17 consecutive days till last Friday, tea garden workers abstained from work for two hours each day, protesting the government move.
Referring to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's visit to Sylhet on January 21,

Nripen Paul, member secretary of Chandpur Bhumi Rakshakha Committee, said they hoped the premier would announce the cancellation of the government plan.
He said if the prime minister did not make such an announcement, they would go on an indefinite work stoppage and blockade the regional highways from January 25.
Lawmaker Fazle Hossain Badsha, convener of the parliamentary caucus on Indigenous Peoples, said the government authorities should respect the rights of the tea garden workers.
Badsha, also general secretary of Bangladesh Workers Party, an ally of ruling Awami League-led 14-party coalition, said he would raise the issue at the parliament.
Prof Anu Mohammad, member secretary of National Committee to Protect Oil, Gas, Mineral Resources, Power, and Ports, said they were not

against the SEZs but they were against setting up those in certain areas, driving out tea garden workers from the land.
Veteran politician Pankaj Bhattacharjee said the government's move to set up an economic zone in this area is just another case of discrimination against tea garden workers.
"Tea garden workers are Bangladeshi citizens and they have voting rights, yet they are among the most deprived people in the country," he added.
CPB General Secretary Syed Abu Jafar Ahmed, Dhaka University History Professor Mesbah Kamal, Bangladesh Chhatra Union President Lucky Akter, Jatiya Adivasi Parishad Rabindranath Soren, among others, spoke at the programme.
Tea garden workers are mostly landless Dalit Hindus who had come to these parts from India when the British set up the first tea estates in the 1850s.

'Whole region being dragged into crisis'

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al-Nimr on Jan 2. Iranian protesters then stormed the Saudi embassy in Tehran, prompting Riyadh to sever relations.
Iran said that it does not want to escalate tensions in the Middle East, even as it took a swipe at Saudi Arabia for "sectarian hate-mongering."
Saudi Arabia was "spreading delusional hype about Iran" after failing to derail the nuclear deal reached with world powers, Tehran's Foreign Minister Mohammad Javad Zarif said in a letter to UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon.
"They (the Saudis) can continue to support extremist terrorists and promote sectarian hatred, or choose the path of good neighborliness and play a constructive role in regional security," state news agency IRNA quoted Zarif's letter as saying in Farsi.
"We have no desire or interest in escalation of tension in our neighbor-

hood," Zarif added in the letter.
Zarif said Sunni Saudi Arabia had engaged in a series of "direct provocations" toward Shia Iran, including the execution of Nimr and what he described as "persistent mistreatment" of Iranian pilgrims visiting Makkah.
Saudi Arabia says last week's executions were a domestic matter, and that Iran is the country pursuing sectarian division by casting itself as the champion of Arab Shias.
Zarif also portrayed Saudi Arabia as a threat to regional and global security in the letter, copies of which were sent to the Organization of Islamic Cooperation and the foreign ministers of several countries.
"Most members of al Qaeda, the Taliban, Islamic State and Nusra Front are Saudi citizens or have been brainwashed by demagogues wielding oil money," IRNA quoted him as writing, in an unusually direct allegation.
Saudi Arabia opposes extremist

groups; it executed dozens of al-Qaeda members last week alongside Nimr, and last month announced an Islamic coalition against terrorism. But the kingdom's ultra conservative Wahhabi clergy, which views Shias as heretical, is a cornerstone of Saudi ruling legitimacy.
Riyadh says around 2,500 Saudis have gone to fight in Syria and Iraq, constituting one of the largest groups of foreign fighters, but only a fraction of the total number estimated to be in the tens of thousands.
Meanwhile, foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council, which groups Sunni Arab monarchies, expressed their "total support" for Saudi Arabia yesterday.
The statement, following an extraordinary ministerial meeting of the six-member group, criticised "Iranian interference in Saudi Arabian affairs" over its denunciation of Nimr al-Nimr's execution a week ago.

Tripura power Akheri Munajat today

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being imported from India would be 570MW.
India's state-owned Oil and Natural Gas Corporation commissioned its biggest ever commercial power project at Palatana in southern Tripura. The first unit of the 726MW plant began power generation in December 2013.
The Palatana project is a hallmark of cooperation between India and Bangladesh, which ensured the smooth passage of heavy project equipment and turbines to Palatana through Bangladesh territory from Haldia port in West Bengal.
Bangladesh allowed free transportation of the equipment through waterways up to Ashuganj and from there to Agartala by road.

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Some 30 to 35 lakh devotees, including 10,000 foreigners from 82 countries, are likely to turn out for the Akheri Munajat on the bank of the Turag river in Tongi, Gazipur.
Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina is expected to participate in the *munajat* from her official residence the Gono Bhaban.
President Abdul Hamid, BNP Chairperson Khaleda Zia, Jatiya Party Chairman HM Ershad, members of different political parties, foreign dignitaries, and government high-ups are also likely to take part.
Yesterday, thousands more devotees braved cold and fog to join the congregation on the second day.
Religious scholars from home and abroad delivered sermons on the Islamic philosophy in the light of the holy Quran and Hadith.
Preparations were on to have around 200 couples married without any dowry at the Ijtema venue, but for some unknown reasons, the marriages could not take place. Such weddings are usually organised after the Asr prayers every year.
Two more devotees died of cardiac arrest and other complications yesterday, taking the death toll to 5 in the last two days, said organisers.
Adom Ali, who was designated to look after the bodies, said the dead are Abul Kalam Azad, 60, of Noakhali, and Alauddin, 65, of Sylhet.
Meanwhile, additional security measures have been put in place ahead of today's Akheri Munajat. Around 12,000 uniformed and

plainclothes police, Rab and intelligence agencies' members are deployed in and around the Ijtema ground to avert any untoward situation.
The Rab detained a man on charge of pick-pocking yesterday.
Organisers said restrictions have been imposed on vehicular movement on some roads near the venue for easing the influx of devotees. However, it will be lifted this evening, they said.
Over 50 free medical camps have been set up for emergencies.
A high official of the Bangladesh Railway said 28 special trains will operate to cope with the rush of devotees during the first and second phase of this year's Ijtema.
Bangladesh Road Transport Corporation (BRTC) is also running special buses.
The second phase will start on 15th January and conclude on 17th January with the Akheri Munajat. For the first time, the Ijtema is being held in four phases in two years.
People from 33 districts, including Dhaka, are taking part in the first two phases this year, while those from the remaining 32 districts, also including Dhaka, will participate in the other two phases next year.
Tablighi Jamaat has been organising Biswa Ijtema, also called the World Muslims' Congregation, every year since 1946. In 2011, the organisers had split the congregation into two phases to deal with overcrowding, ensure better management and security.

Don't give up

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His daughter Lucy, 46, told the audience that her father's stubbornness and laughter have kept him alive.
"He has a very enviable wish to keep going and the ability to summon all his reserves, all his energy, all his mental focus and press them all into that goal of keeping going.
"But not just to keep going for the purposes of survival but to transcend this by producing extraordinary work -- writing books, giving lectures, inspiring other people with neurodegenerative and other disabilities."
Answering a question from the audience, Professor Hawking said he had learnt to appreciate what he had.
"Although it was unfortunate to get motor neurone disease, I have been very fortunate in almost everything else.
"I have been lucky to work in theoretical physics at a fascinating time and it's one of the few areas in which my disability was not a serious handicap.
"It's also important not to become angry, no matter how difficult life may seem because you can lose all hope if you can't laugh at yourself and life in general."
Professor Hawking said it may be possible to fall into a black hole and come out in another universe.
"The hole would need to be large and if it was rotating it might have a passage to another universe. But you couldn't come back to our universe.
"So although I'm keen on space flight I'm not going to try that."
The talk was initially scheduled for November but had to be cancelled because Professor Hawking was unwell.
The lectures will be broadcast in two instalments on BBC Radio 4 on January 26 and February 2 at 9:00am.

Apologise for arson attacks

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She said Khaleda must apologise to the nation for the arson attacks that killed around 100 people during the countrywide blockade and hartals enforced by the BNP-Jamaat alliance early last year.
There were election officials, media personnel and others at the polling stations, and people had been there to cast their votes, Hasina argued.
"She [Khaleda] saw human beings as dogs. Everyone is a dog in her eyes. Only a rabies patient sees others as dogs... She has no right to say this."
Hasina, also the chief of the ruling Awami League, said, "What kind of behaviour is this? Forty percent people of the country, who went to cast their votes, are dogs! What an audacity! She called human beings dogs."
Such bad words only fit Khaleda as

she killed "hundreds of people" through arson attacks in early 2015. "She [Khaleda] has to apologise to the nation for burning people and calling the country's people dogs."
The AL president said the reason behind such behaviour of Khaleda Zia is to save war criminals. "The people of the country won't accept it... I call upon her to seek apology [for this]."
Khaleda should be tried for burning people, she said. "This has to be done only to ensure that no one in future dares to commit such activities and play with the fate of people."
The PM said Khaleda cannot accept the massive development of the country and that is why she called people dogs. "It's sad that a political leader could utter such bad words."

Leveraging ICT for Growth Employment & Governance Project
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Request for Expression of Interest (EOI) For Delivery of Online Outsourcing Training and Employment Services for IT and IT-Enabled Services Industry (International) (Contract Package # AF-S1)

Bangladesh Computer Council (BCC), an organization of Information & Communication Technology Division, Ministry of Posts, Telecommunications and Information Technology has applied for additional financing from the World Bank toward the cost of the Leveraging ICT for Growth, Employment and Governance Project (LICT) (IDA Credit No.: 5025-BD), and intends to apply part of the proceeds for payment of services related to Delivery of Online Outsourcing Training and Employment Services for IT and IT-Enabled Services Industry.

The objective of the activity is to carry out a training and mentorship program leading to Online Outsourcing (OO) for Bangladesh youth and women. The OO training services will require to train at least 10,000 youth and women and to ensure global OO employment to the trained 10,000 youth and women across various locations in Bangladesh.

The scope of the services is to develop and deliver a comprehensive OO technical training and employability training for working in global OO platforms for at least 10,000 trainees leading to independent OO employment for 10,000 trainees within 3 months of training completion. This activity is to be delivered based on proven experiences and expertise in OO (preferably local); including the necessary approaches, systems, applications, processes, and programs for training, job placements, and mentorships. It may also partner international OO marketplaces or clients to ensure relevance of the training, and to meet the minimum requirement of earnings per worker. The minimum requirement to be considered for "employment" is earning of at least USD100 for each online freelancer in high complexity category; and earning of at least USD60 for each of the low and medium categories within 3 months of their completion of training. These monthly earning amounts (USD100 and USD60) are based on the total earnings from projects awarded to each trainee, since there are expected payment lags and delays. It is expected that approximately 70 percent of the jobs will be in online freelancing in high complexity category, and approximately 30 percent in low and medium categories.

This assignment is expected to provide training at least 7 divisions/locations in Bangladesh (urban and rural), and ensure at least 30 percent women's participation. The trainees will consist of varying demographic groups: such as (i) unemployed university graduates, (ii) unemployed youth below university level of education, (iii) housewives or female homemakers, (iv) registered inactive freelancers; and (v) person with disability (PWD), (vi) current university students.

The Leveraging ICT for Growth, Employment and Governance Project, invites qualified firms to submit Expression of Interest (EOI) for Delivery of Online Outsourcing Training and Employment Services for IT and IT-Enabled Services Industry.

Interested firms should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the assignment. The selection criteria are as follows:

- Certificate of Incorporation/Registration of consultants (firm).
- Demonstrated capability in design, development and delivery of Online Outsourcing (OO) training and mentorship for the OO sector; as evidenced by the proven systems, applications, processes of the firm, its institutional experience.
- Experience in providing such services in rural areas.
- Experience working with government or donors on similar OO activities
- Tested and proven OO job placement experience in at least 1 country; with at least a 50 percent rate of success for getting at least 1 freelancing job.
- Proven comprehensive online platform for trainee management, eLearning, gamification, peer grouping, etc.
- Ability to scale up operations (if needed) to train, provide employment and mentorship for at least 10,000 persons in Bangladesh. Partnerships with experienced consultancy firms, local training locations (such as training institutes, organization with training facilities) etc. are encouraged.
- Availability of appropriate skills among staff.

The attention of interested Firms is drawn to paragraph 1.9 of the World Bank's Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers, edition of January 2011, Revised July 2014 ("Consultant Guidelines"), setting forth the World Bank's policy on conflict of interest.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture or a sub-consultancy to enhance their qualifications, but should mention whether the association is in the form of a "Joint-Venture" or "Sub-Consultancy". In the case of a joint venture, all members of such "association" should have real and well-defined inputs to the assignment and it is preferable to limit total number of firms including the associates to a maximum of three.

The procurement process would be Quality and Cost Based Selection (QCBS) method in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's "Guidelines: Selection and Employment of Consultants under IBRD Loans and IDA Credits & Grants by World Bank Borrowers" edition of January 2011, Revised July 2014.

Interested firms may obtain draft Terms of References (TOR) at the address below during regular office time 9:00 to 15:30 hours (GMT+06:00) on all working days. They may also obtain the same in the BCC's official website: www.bcc.gov.bd or www.ict.gov.bd.

Expressions of Interest (EOI) must be delivered in a written form with all relevant information and documents establishing eligibility to the address below by 10 February 2016 in three sets (1 Original + 2 Copies) and clearly marked "Expression of Interest for Delivery of Online Outsourcing Training and Employment Services for IT and IT-Enabled Services Industry".

The authority reserves the right to accept or reject any or all EOIs, or annul the process at any stage without assigning any reason(s) whatsoever and without incurring any liability to the affected applicant(s).

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